

What is claimed is:

1. A method for generating response time data for a client accessing information from a network, comprising the steps of:

providing first instructions attached to a first block of information, wherein the block of information is available for requesting by a client from a network, and the first instructions are for causing the client to read a first reference time, responsive to the client initiating access to a second block of information from the network; and

providing second instructions attached to the second block of information, wherein the second instructions are for causing the client to read a second reference time responsive to the client loading the second block of information, and for causing the client to retrieve the first reference time and compute a time difference between the first and second reference times.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the first instructions are attached to a link in the first block of information, wherein the link references the second block of information, so that the first instructions are capable of being executed by the client upon loading information indicated by the link.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the second block of information is for the client to display in a page frame of a window and the first instructions include instructions for causing the client to load the first reference time in a hidden frame of the window.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the second instructions include instructions for causing the client to read the first reference time in the hidden frame of the window.

5. The method of claim 2, wherein the second block of information is for the client to display in a page frame of a window and the first instructions include instructions for causing the client to load the first reference time in a hidden frame of the window.

5 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the second instructions include instructions for causing the client to read the first reference time in the hidden frame of the window.

7. The method of claim 6, comprising the step of:  
providing a second reference to first instructions for the client, by the first instructions being also attached to the second block of information, wherein the second reference to the first instructions is for causing the client to read a third reference time, responsive to the client initiating access to a third block of information from the network, and causing the client to load the third reference time in the hidden fame.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the first instructions include instructions for causing the client to store the first reference time in a cookie.

9. The method of claim 8, wherein the second instructions include instructions for causing the client to read the first reference time in the cookie.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the first instructions include instructions for causing the client to open a window and store the first reference time in the window.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein the second instructions include instructions for causing the client to read the first reference time in the window.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein the blocks of information are for the client to display in at least one window, and wherein such a window has a window name, the method comprising the step of:

providing, in the first instructions, instructions for causing the client to append the first reference time to one of the window names.

13. The method of claim 12, comprising the step of: providing, in the second instructions, instructions for causing the client to parse the first reference time from the window name.

14. The method of claim 2, wherein the blocks of information are for the client to display in at least one window, and wherein such a window has a window name, the method comprising the step of:

providing, in the first instructions, appending instructions for causing the client to append the first reference time to one of the window names.

15. The method of claim 14, comprising the step of: providing, in the second instructions, parsing instructions for causing the client to parse the first reference time from the window name.

16. The method of claim 15, comprising the step of:

providing a second reference to first instructions for the client, by the first instructions being also attached to the second block of information, wherein the second reference to the first instructions is for causing the client to read a third reference time, responsive to the client

5 initiating access to a third block of information from the network, and causing the client to append the third reference time to one of the window names.

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17. A computer program product for generating response time data for a client accessing blocks of information from a network, the client program product comprising:

first instructions attached to a first block of information, wherein the block of information is available for requesting by a client from a network, and the first instructions are for causing the client to read a first reference time responsive to the client initiating access to a second block of information from the network; and

second instructions attached to the second block of information, wherein the second instructions are for causing the client to read a second reference time responsive to the client loading the second block of information, and for causing the client to retrieve the first reference time and compute a time difference between the first and second reference times.

18. The computer program product of claim 17, wherein the first instructions are attached to a link in the first block of information, wherein the link references the second block of information, so that the first instructions are capable of being executed by the client upon loading information indicated by the link.

19. The computer program product of claim 17, wherein the second block of information is for the client to display in a page frame of a window and the first instructions include instructions for causing the client to load the first reference time in a hidden frame of the window.

20. The computer program product of claim 19, wherein the second instructions include instructions for causing the client to read the first reference time in the hidden frame of the window.

5 21. The computer program product of claim 18, wherein the second block of information is for the client to display in a page frame of a window and the first instructions include instructions for causing the client to load the first reference time in a hidden frame of the window.

10 22. The computer program product of claim 21, wherein the second instructions include instructions for causing the client to read the first reference time in the hidden frame of the window.

15 23. The computer program product of claim 22, wherein the first instructions are also attached to the second block of information, so that responsive to the client initiating access from the second block of information to a third block of information, the first instructions are capable of a second instance of execution for causing the client to read a third reference time and to load the third reference time in the hidden frame.

20 24. The computer program product of claim 17, wherein the first instructions include instructions for causing the client to store the first reference time in a cookie.

25. The computer program product of claim 17, wherein the second instructions include instructions for causing the client to read the first reference time in the cookie.

26. The computer program product of claim 17, wherein the first instructions include instructions for causing the client to open a window and store the first reference time in the window.

27. The computer program product of claim 26, wherein the first instructions include instructions for causing the client to read the first reference time in the window.

28. The computer program product of claim 17, wherein the blocks of information are for the client to display in at least one window, such a window having a window name, and wherein the first instructions include instructions for causing the client to append the first reference time to one of the window names.

29. The computer program product of claim 28, wherein the second instructions include instructions for causing the client to parse the first reference time from the window name.

30. The computer program product of claim 18, wherein the blocks of information are for the client to display in at least one window, such a window having a window name, and wherein the first instructions include instructions for causing the client to append the first reference time to one of the window names.

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32. The computer program product of claim 31, wherein the first instructions are also attached to the second block of information, so that responsive to the client initiating access from the second block of information to a third block of information, the first instructions are capable of a second instance of execution for causing the client to read a third reference time and append the third reference time to one of the window names.



33. A server comprising:

a processor for connecting to a network;

a storage device coupled to the processor, wherein the storage device is for storing:

a program for controlling the processor,

5 blocks of information,

first instructions attached to a first one of the blocks of information, and

second instructions attached to a second one of the blocks of information;

wherein the blocks of information are available for requesting by a client via the network, and the

first instructions are for causing the client to read a first reference time responsive to the client

10 initiating access to the second block of information from the network, and the second instructions

are for causing the client to read a second reference time responsive to the client loading the

second block of information, and causing the client to retrieve the first reference time and

compute a time difference between the first and second reference times.

15 34. The server of claim 33, wherein the first instructions are attached to a link in the first  
block of information, wherein the link references the second block of information, so that the  
first instructions are capable of being executed by the client upon loading information indicated  
by the link.

20 35. The server of claim 33, wherein the second block of information is for the client to  
display in a page frame of a window and the first instructions include instructions for causing the  
client to load the first reference time in a hidden frame of the window.

36. The server of claim 35, wherein the second instructions include instructions for causing the client to read the first reference time in the hidden frame of the window.

37. The server of claim 34, wherein the second block of information is for the client to display in a page frame of a window and the first instructions include instructions for causing the client to load the first reference time in a hidden frame of the window.

38. The server of claim 37, wherein the second instructions include instructions for causing the client to read the first reference time in the hidden frame of the window.

39. The server of claim 38, wherein the first instructions are also attached to the second block of information, so that responsive to the client initiating access from the second block of information to a third block of information, the first instructions are capable of a second instance of execution for causing the client to read a third reference time and to load the third reference time in the hidden frame.

40. The server of claim 33, wherein the first instructions include instructions for causing the client to store the first reference time in a cookie.

41. The server of claim 40, wherein the second instructions include instructions for causing the client to read the first reference time in the cookie.

42. The server of claim 33, wherein the first instructions include instructions for causing the client to open a window and store the first reference time in the window.

43. The server of claim 42, wherein the second instructions include instructions for  
5 causing the client to read the first reference time in the window.

44. The server of claim 33, wherein the blocks of information are for the client to display in at least one window, such a window having a window name, and wherein the first instructions include instructions for causing the client to append the first reference time to one of the window  
10 names.

45. The server of claim 44, wherein the second instructions include instructions for causing the client to parse the first reference time from the window name.

46. The server of claim 34, wherein the blocks of information are for the client to display in at least one window, such a window having a window name, and wherein the first instructions include instructions for causing the client to append the first reference time to one of the window  
15 names.

47. The server of claim 46, wherein the second instructions include instructions for  
20 causing the client to parse the first reference time from the window name.

48. The server of claim 47, wherein the first instructions are also attached to the second block of information, so that responsive to the client initiating access from the second block of information to a third block of information, the first instructions are capable of a second instance of execution for causing the client to read a third reference time and to append the third  
5 reference time to one of the window names.

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